

Ref 827

19. (New) A method of stimulating an immune response, said method comprising administering a composition comprising an isolated polypeptide comprising an immunogenic portion of a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of (a) the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:190; and (b) a sequence 95% identical to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:190, and thereby stimulating an immune response.

20. (New) *B* The method of claim 19, wherein the polypeptide of (b) is capable of stimulating T cells that are stimulated by SEQ ID NO:190.

21. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition further comprises a physiologically acceptable carrier.

22. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition further comprises an adjuvant.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated May 21, 2002, applicants have elected Group 124, claims 12-14, and the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:431. Claims 12-14 have been cancelled and the new claims 19-22 added. As discussed with Examiner Li in a telephone conference dated July 18, 2002, applicants wish to elect the species of SEQ ID NO:190 (pmpG) in lieu of the species of SEQ ID NO: 431, for prosecution at this time. SEQ ID NO: 190, although not specifically recited in the original claims, is indeed fully supported by the specification as filed, for example at page 19, lines 1-2 and page 105 line 29, through page 106, line 8. Applicants wish to thank Examiner Li for allowing applicants to amend their species election in this manner.

Newly added claims 19-22 are thus drawn to methods of stimulating an immune response, comprising administering a composition comprising an isolated polypeptide comprising an immunogenic portion of SEQ ID NO:190. It is urged that support for the amendment can be found throughout the specification as filed, and therefore, the amendments do not constitute new matter. Specific support for newly added claims 19-22 may be found, for example, at page 3, line 8 through page 4, line 9, and page 148, line 8, through page 149. It should also be noted that the above amendment is made solely for the purposes of clarity and

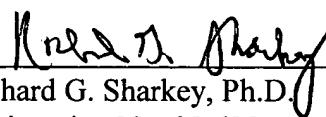
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without prejudice to prosecution of any subject matter modified and/or removed by this amendment in a related divisional, continuation and/or continuation-in-part application.

Respectfully submitted,

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